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NIC 9448-241-25X1

DDI-322474

4 November 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

SUBJECT : The RISOP Question

1. My 22 October session with the Secretary of Defense was largely devoted to the issues involved in costing Soviet defense expenditures. After the main session ended and the economists had left the room, however, I quietly brought up the RISOP matter (per your request), explaining that you were still getting some pressure on this topic from the PFIAB, particularly its Chairman. Schlesinger turned to Andy Marshall and asked him to pursue this question with me.

2. On 25 October, Andy Marshall came to my office in compliance with Jim Schlesinger's instructions. Also participating in that session were Howard Stoertz and [redacted] (acting for [redacted] who was on leave). I briefly sketched the relevant background, touching on your discussions with the PFIAB last spring and the correspondence generated by Admiral Anderson as a result of the problems he and some of his Board members had with what they (erroneously) thought was the intent of the sentence in last year's NIE 11-8 which said the Intelligence Community did not foresee the Soviets developing a true first-strike capability within the next decade. After explaining the background, including my two brief discussions with the Secretary and one conversation with General Dougherty (the Commander of SAC), and stressing that you had no desire or intent to trespass on the Secretary of Defense's turf, I made two suggestions to get the conversation rolling:

- (a) That arrangements be made for you and a small number of your most senior subordinates directly involved with this problem to be briefed on the results of the SIOP/RISOP gaming done every six months by (alternately) SAGA and the JSTPS.

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(b) That appropriate steps be taken for knowledgeable persons representing you in your capacity as DCI to contribute to the judgments on Soviet perceptions, intentions and objectives which are folded into this gaming process.

3. Marshall listened attentively and courteously. He appeared to accept our assurances that neither you nor any of your representatives had any desire to involve themselves in U.S. strategic planning (e.g., the SIOP) and also to accept our proposition that Soviet perceptions, intentions and objectives were not solely departmental concerns of the Secretary of Defense but also national intelligence questions for which you bore a measure of responsibility. Marshall promised to look into this problem further and be back in touch. He had no apparent conceptual trouble with either of the specific recommendations I advanced for consideration but (naturally) made no promises or commitments at this session.



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George A. Carver, Jr.
Deputy for National Intelligence Officers

cc: DDCI
DDS&T
DDI
NIO/SP
NIO/USSR
Executive Registry

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Mr. Pructor

*10/11/74 PW/Fin
Carver*

Attached is a memo to the Director from Carver on the subject of "The RISOP Question". It is Secret Sensitive. Should we dissem to OSR?

Yes OSR ✓

No _____

Anyone else? *→*

OCT, OPR ✓ *10/17/74
EW*

*all for
info + limit
access
EW*

6 November 1974
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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